

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A telecom ring tone method, comprising:
 - a user connects to a telecom switch;
 - 5 a home location register in the telecom switch verifies a caller is a registered user;
 - if the caller is registered, the telecom switch connects to an added-service server;
 - the added-service server processes settings for the registered user; and
 - when a call is made and before the call is connected a ring tone according to the registered user's settings is played.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a user connects to a common service server;
 - the user registers with the common service server;
 - the common service server uploads registration data to the home location register in the telecom switch;
 - 15 the common service server connects to the added-service server; and
 - the user selects a desired ring tone and related ring tone properties in the added-service server.
3. The method of claim 2, whereby the user connects to the common service server via a telecom network.
- 20 4. The method of claim 3, whereby the telecom network comprises a public telecom network, a cable network, a radio network, a satellite network, an optical cable network, or a cable television network.
5. The method of claim 3, whereby the common service server connects to the added-service server via a telecom network, a network, a computer network, or an internet.
- 25 6. The method of claim 2, whereby the related ring tone properties comprise group

settings, priority settings, advanced services settings, random tone settings, third-party vendor settings, and service control settings.

7. The method of claim 6, whereby the group settings comprise a group type and a list of members of a group.

5 8. The method of claim 7, whereby when a member of a group calls the registered user or the registered user calls a member of the group, the desired ring tone is played.

9. The method of claim 3, whereby the added-service server comprises an audio database of ring tones from which the registered user can select desired ring tones.

10 10. The method of claim 2, whereby the desired ring tone comprises music, dialogue, advertising, holiday music, audio data, and audio data recorded by the registered user.

11. A telecom ring tone method, comprising:

registering and setting up, comprising;

a user connects to a common service server;

15 the user registers with the common service server;

the common service server uploads registration data to a home location register in a telecom switch;

the common service server connects to the added-service server;

20 the user selects a desired ring tone and related ring tone properties in the added-service server; and

applying, comprising;

the user places a call or receives a call;

the home location register in the telecom switch verifies the user is a registered user;

for registered users, the telecom switch connects to the added-service server;

25 the added-service server processes settings selected by the registered user; and

the desired ring tone according to the related ring tone properties is played for the registered user or a caller to the registered user, until the call is connected.

12. The method of claim 11, whereby the user connects to the common service server
5 via a telecom network.

13. The method of claim 12, whereby the telecom network comprises a public telecom network, a cable network, a radio network, a satellite network, an optical cable network, or a cable television network.

14. The method of claim 11, whereby the common service server connects to the
10 added-service server via a telecom network, a network, a computer network, or an internet.

15. The method of claim 11, whereby the related ring tone properties comprise group settings, priority settings, advanced services settings, random tone settings, third-party vendor settings, and service control settings.

16. The method of claim 15, whereby the group settings comprise a group type and a
15 list of members of a group.

17. The method of claim 16, whereby when a member of a group calls the registered user or the registered user calls a member of the group, the desired ring tone is played.

18. The method of claim 11, whereby the added-service server comprises an audio database of ring tones from which the registered user can select desired ring tones.

20 19. The method of claim 11, whereby the desired ring tone comprises music, dialogue, advertising, holiday music, audio data, and audio data recorded by the registered user.